

# DURHAM COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

## *Proclamation*

**WHEREAS**, treatment and long-term recovery from substance use disorders can offer a renewed outlook on life for those who are addicted and their family members; and

**WHEREAS**, substance use disorders impact 22.6 million people aged 12 or older in the United States (or 9.2 percent of the population), which is more than the number of people living with coronary heart disease, cancer, or Alzheimer's Disease combined; and

**WHEREAS**, people who receive treatment for substance use disorders can lead more productive and fulfilling lives, personally and professionally; and

**WHEREAS**, studies have consistently found that individualized treatment is essential for people to be successful in their path of recovery; and

**WHEREAS**, real stories of long-term recovery can inspire others to ask for help and improve their own lives, the lives of their families, and the entire community; and

**WHEREAS**, it is critical that we educate our community members that substance use disorders are treatable yet serious healthcare problems, and by treating them like other chronic diseases, we can improve the quality of life for the entire community; and

**WHEREAS**, working together to help achieve this goal are the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, the White House Office of National Drug Control Policy, The Durham Center, and the Partnership for a Healthy Durham:

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that I, Ellen W. Reckhow, Chairman of the Durham County Board of Commissioners, do hereby proclaim the month of September 2008 as

### **ALCOHOL AND DRUG ADDICTION RECOVERY MONTH**

in Durham County. I call upon all citizens to observe this month by celebrating recovery from addiction at the third annual Recovery Celebration Block Party in Durham on September 12 and by participating in other appropriate programs, activities, and ceremonies supporting this year's theme, "Join the Voices for Recovery: Real People, Real Recovery."

This the 25<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2008.

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Ellen W. Reckhow, Chairman

